

Articles
OF
CHRISTIAN FAITH

Believed and Written by me

John Cox
OF
YORK,
Anno Dom. 1688.

*The Word is nigh thee, even in thy Mouth,
and in thy heart, that is the Word of Faith
which we Preach.*

*That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the
Lord Jesus Christ, and shalt believe in
thine heart that God hath Raised him
from the dead, thou shalt be saved,
Rom. 10. 8, 9.*

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Christian Reader,

IN these Articles here
written by me thou
maist know my inside and
Heart as to Religion, and
thou maist try them by the
holy Scriptures, if they are
conformable to the Doctrin
and Precepts of our Lord
Jesus Christ, the Prophets,
Apostles, and Evangelists of
the true Church of God,
Christ himself being the
chief Corner Stone thereof;
and the hope of Glory re-

A 2 vealed

vealed by his own Light
and Grace in us.

And to explain my self
the most plainly I can to
thy Information, I agree
in every particular with
those called the Apostles,
Nicean, and Athanasius
Creeds upon the Matter
and Intents of the same
(except in any word not
used in the Scriptures of
Truth.) And in Testi-
mony thereof I have here-
unto set my Hand the 12.
of the 11. Month called
Jan. 168⁸.

A John Cox.

Articles

OF

Christian Faith, &c.

1. *Of God.*

I Believe in One Lord God Almighty, Creator, and Possessor of Heaven and Earth, according to Holy Scripture.

2. *Of Jesus Christ.*

I believe in One Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, the only begotten eternal Son of God the Father, conceived by the

Holy Ghost, manifested in the Flesh, born of the Virgin *Mary*; and suffered, and dyed for our Sins without the Gates of *Jerusalem*; and rose again the third day for our Justification, &c. And I believe all else concerning Him, according to the Holy Scriptures.

3. *Of the Holy Ghost.*

I believe in the Holy Ghost, proceeding from the Father and the Son: And that the Father, the Son, and the Spirit, are the Holy Trinity, the One, Only, True, Holy, Incomprehensible Lord God Almighty; and all that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments thereof Reveal by the Spirit I do believe. 4.

4. *Of the Sacred Scriptures.*

I believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, called the Bible, were Written by Inspiration for our Learning by the Holy Ghost, and answers to his own Testimony in all Men's hearts, and are a Rule to walk by, especially the Commandments and Doctrines, and all that which they Teach for Salvation I do believe; and Renounce all other Rules contrary thereunto, or not one therewith, what ever they be.

5. *Of Election and Reprobation.*

I believe no other Name given by which Men can be Saved, but by the Name of

Jesus ; and that all Men are Lighted by him, (for he is that true Light of Life which Lighteth every Man coming into the World,) with a Capacity to believe ^{e^d} the Truth, in the day of their Visitation ; and so many as believe in him are Elected to salvation before the World began : So many as believes not in him, are Condemned already, because they believe not in him whom God hath sent.

6. *Of Repentance and Remission of Sins.*

I believe Repentance, and Remission of Sins, are to be Preached according to the Holy Scriptures, successively to every Generation, and to all

all the World only in the Name and Authority of *Jesus Christ*, and only by his Merits.

7. *Of Redemption.*

I believe Redemption only by *Jesus Christ*, we being purchased freely by his Blood, according to the Scriptures.

8. *Of Sanctification.*

I believe Sanctification by the Spirit, wrought in us, we Co-operating with him, is necessary to our Salvation, and Spiritual Assurance.

9. *Of Justification.*

I believe Justification only by the Merits of our Lord and Saviour *Jesus Christ*, and all our Righteousnesses are Effect, an or Fruit of his Mercy; Death,

a d

and Sufferings, and all our Holyness we do conformable thereunto, is only our Duty, and not Merit.

10. *Of Baptism.*

I believe Baptism according to the Teaching and practice of the Evangelical Pastors, of the Primitive Church testified in Scripture.

11. *Of the Lords Supper.*

I believe the Lord's Supper according to our Lord *Jesus Christs* Institution, and the Primitive Practice amongst Believers, declared in the holy Scriptures.

12. *Of free-Grace, and light of the Gospel.*

I believe by Grace we are Saved, and not of our selves ;
and

and that Grace, Light, and Truth of the Gospel, and all Good came, and cometh by *Jesus Christ*, our Lord and Redeemer.

13. *Of Faith.*

I believe Faith is the gift of God, and without Faith according to the Scriptures it is impossible to please God; and what Doctrines are in the Scriptures of Truth, are of Faith, and what is not according to them is Sin.

14. *Of good Works.*

I believe good Works as the Effects, or Fruits of true and lively Faith, are necessary to our particular Justification, as Dutifull, or as good Servants, as Christ said unto
Pe-

Peter, except I wash thee, thou hast no part in me ; and James saith, Faith without Works is dead.

15. *Of Hope to Come.*

I believe Hope to Come, or an holy expectation of the Fulfilling of all the holy Promises in Holy Scripture, which cannot be broken but must come to pass, in the Lords time.

16. *Of Charity.*

I believe Charity is the greatest of all Spiritual Gifts, and without it Professors of Christianity are but as *tinckling Cymballs and sounding Brass*, our Lord *Jesus Christ* has Commanded us to Love one another, and to do unto all men as we would be done unto.

17. *Of*

17. *Of Humility, Self-denial and the Cross.*

I believe without Christian Humility, Self-denial, and suffering for *Christ's* sake it is impossible to take up our daily Cross and to enter into Life by *Christ*.

18. *Of Perseverance of Saints.*

I believe Perseverance of Saints is necessary to Salvation, as our Saviour Taught; *he that continueth to the end, shall be saved.*

19. *Of Man's Free will.*

I believe Man of himself has no Free-will, but lost his Free-will to God in *Adam*, but restored again through the promised Seed of the Woman,
man,

man, *Christ Jesus*, as the Holy Scriptures Demonstrate.

20. *Of the Word that became Flesh.*

I believe *Jesus Christ* our Lord is the Word of God from Everlasting to Everlasting, and by him God Created all things; and that he was made Flesh as the Scriptures Testifie.

21. *Of Spiritual Worship.*

I believe thro the true Light, the keeping of Gods Commandments, Believing, and Walking by Revelation of the Spirit of Truth in us, according to the Holy Scriptures; Or Indeavouring so to walk to a daily amendment of Life in serving of God both

both in private, and assembling together, is the Worship of God in Spirit and in Truth.

22. Of Prayer and Fasting.

I believe Prayer, and Fasting as our Lord has Taught us are necessary Christian Duties.

23. Of Alms-Deeds.

I believe Alms-Deeds are an absolute necessary Christian Duty, of the Rich according to the Scriptures of Truth.

24. Of Regeneration.

I believe without Regeneration, or being Spiritually Born again of the Water, and of the Spirit, and made conformable to Christ, as Mem- C
bers

bers of that Head, we cannot be saved.

25. *Of Swearing under the Gospel.*

I believe Swearing is unlawfull by the Prohibition of *Christ* under the Gospel, but that Christians ought to speak Truth, (when they speak) at all times according to the Gospel.

26. *Of Tradition.*

I believe all holy Tradition according to the Scriptures, but all that is not according to them ought to be rejected, and earnestly contended against, as the Rudiments of this world, Traditions of Men, the Mark of the Beast, and not the Faith, or Doctrine once deliver'd to the Saints. 27.

27. *Of Tithes.*

I believe Tithes are no Gospel Ministers maintenance, nor do I believe any other maintenance to Gospel Ministers lawful, but what the New-Testament allows, and that Maintenance I do own, which is *Free Alms.*

28. *Of Perfection.*

I believe Perfection is to be pressed after, *For without holiness no Man shall see God.* But I believe the Saints Perfection in this Life is but in part, and when the beginning and end meet in him that is the *Alpha and Omega*, then shall be compleat Perfection.

29. *Of Religion.*

I believe there is but one
true

true Religion which is to Salvation in the World, and that is the Christian Religion, or the Rule of Faith and Manners, given us by the Son of God our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, and declared in the holy Scriptures, which is not to be added unto, nor diminished from upon pain of Damnation.

30. *Of the Church.*

I believe there has alwaies been a true visible Church, altho not with a like perspicuity, or clearness to the World; like as the Sun is alwaies the Sun, however disappearing to some of our sights, by Clouds arising from the Earth or Waters.

31. *Of*

31. *Of Church-Government.*

I believe in the Church in the Primitive Times, there was ever Spiritual Order and Government as Recorded in the Scriptures of Truth: All were not Apostles, or Teachers, &c. But such Government, Order, and Rules as are in the *New Testament*, both of Governors and Governed, in all respects I own, and not otherwaies; denying on the one hand *Superstition* and *Idolatry*: And on the other hand all *Anarchy*, *Rantisme*, and *Phantastical Enthusiasme*.

32. *Of Ministers and Maintenance.*

I believe that Christ Jesus the Lord, and Husband, and Teacher,

Teacher, and Leader of His Church thro all Ages, did establish a Ministry and Maintenance in his Church. And this I believe according to the Scriptures of Truth, and none will deny it amongst Christians but Ranters and Atheists.

33. *Of the Civil Magistrate.*

I believe Magistracy & Civil Government to be of Divine Authority ; & that Obedience ought to be given for Conscience sake ; & that it is against the nature of Christianity to despise *Dominion*, and *speak evil of Dignities*, and for Subjects to Rebel against the lawful Civil Supreme Magistrate under any pretence whatsoever ; but as the Apostle

stle

He teacheth, *Honour all men ;
Love the Brotherhood ; Fear
God, Honour the King.*

34. *Of Wars and Fighting
under the Gospel.*

I believe Wars and Fighting are contrary to the nature and Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who said, *My Kingdom is not of this World, else would my servants Fight for me.* And again, *I came not to destroy mens lives, but to save mens lives.*

35. *Of the Resurrection.*

I believe the Resurrection of the Body ; and that Christ the Resurrection of the Life, will change our vile Bodies, and make them like to his
glo-

glorious Body ; and this I do believe according to the holy scriptures. And in opposition to the Ranters principle, who deny this Fundamental Doctrine of Christianity.

36. *Of the Kingdom of the Messiah or Christ.*

I believe as our Lord taught his Disciples to Pray (in the blessed Lords Prayer) *Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done in Earth as it is in Heaven* ; so I believe in the Lords time, and in his way it shall come to pass on the Earth, and all true Believers shall enjoy it ; but it shall not be brought to pass with a carnal Weapon.

37. *Of Righteousness and
Judgment to come.*

I believe Righteousness and Judgment to come, and Sheep and Goats shall be at the last day separated, and the Grave and Sea give up the Dead in them, and the soul which never dies, and body unite, to receive according to the deeds done in the Body, whether they be good or evil. And Heaven perfectly enjoyed by those that have suffered for Christ. And Hell fully comprehending all those that have loved this present world and the Vanities thereof more than God.

This


This in Brief is a Declaration of my Faith in these particulars, and I commit them to the perusal of all Christians, asserting, that however I may be censured, altho I may err, yet I cannot be an Heretick.

John Cox.

THE END.

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